

**George Mercer to George Washington, December 18, 1770, Letters to Washington and Accompanying Papers. Published by the Society of the Colonial Dames of America. Edited by Stanislaus Murray Hamilton.**

**FROM COLONEL GEORGE MERCER.**

DUBLIN Decr. the 18th. 1770—

DEAR COLONEL

I wrote you from hence about two Months since, at the Request of Mrs. Savage, praying you to do, what her own Letter now she says repeats, and enforces. I believe the poor Woman has but a bad Time, as she is amongst other Things, at the tender Age of three score & ten, denied the Use of Pen Ink Paper & Romances, and a frequent Use of the Strap is substituted in the Place of these Amusements—this she tells me herself, and an old Lady who visits me with her assures me—it is—but—too—true.

This Country affords no News—various are the Opinions concerning War—all the Officers who had Leave of Absence are ordered to join their Regiments—every Pacquet boat imports Us at least half a dozen—and if We may judge by the Appearances at the Castle, all the Country seems to have got into his Majesty's Livery—as  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the Levee is always composed of red Coats.

I wrote you several Letters on the Subject of the Lands We were promised by Govr. Dinwiddie's Proclamation—in my last, before I left England, I mentioned my having agreed with, or I may rather say prevailed with, the great Land Company there<sup>1</sup>—that the 200,000 Acres claimed by the officers of the Virginia Troops, should be allowed, out of *their small*

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Grant; but I wish however the Affair might be settled in Virginia, and I hope it is over by this, as the 25th. of Octr. is past.

I hope to kiss your Hand in our native Country the Beginning of the Summer, as I shall go to England in a few Days, & put myself on Board the first Spring Ship bound to the Land of Promise. My Compliments wait on Mrs. Washington. I am

Dear Colonel Your obliged Friend & hble Servt. GEO. MERCER.

<sup>1</sup> Colonel Mercer was the agent for the Ohio Company in England, which had been merged into Walpole's Company.